AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:
Claims 1 to 26. (Canceled).

27. (New) A method for generating an automatic authorization of a shopping cart created during electronic procurement of items depending on at least one value stored in a database table, comprising:

retrieving data from the database table, the data including a data representing a budget-value and a data representing a cumulative amount spent during a specified time period assigned to a user performing the electronic procurement;

calculating a total value of the items in the shopping cart;

comparing a sum of the value of the cumulative amount spent and the total value of the items in the shopping cart with the budget-value;

wherein, if the sum is less than or equal to the budget-value, then:

generating the authorization, and

updating the value of the cumulative amount spent by the total value of items in the shopping cart;

wherein, if the sum is greater than the budget-value, then:

generating an indication indicating that the budget-value is exceeded.

28. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the items include one of goods and services.

29. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the retrieved data is retrieved from a first and a second database table.

30. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the retrieved data retrieved from the first database table includes at least one of a user identification, the budget-value, a currency of the budget-value, and a time period for the budget-value.

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31. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the retrieved data retrieved from the second database table includes at least one of a user identification, a cumulative amount spent, a currency of cumulative amount spent, and a spending-date.

32. (New) The method of claim 27, further comprising:

setting a cumulative amount spent in the database table to an initial value, if a time period of a current date does not correspond to a time period of the spending-date.

33. (New) The method of claim 32, further comprising:

setting the spending-date in the database table to the current date, if the time period of the current date does not correspond to the time period of the spending-date.

34. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the indication includes one of a request for changing a content of the shopping cart, and a request for further authorization.

35. (New) A computer program product, comprising a program code means stored on a computer readable medium for performing the method of claim 27 when the program is run on a computer.

36. (New) An article, comprising:

a computer readable medium that stores executable instructions, the executable instructions causing a computer system to:

retrieve data from a database table including data representing a budget-value, data representing a time period for the budget-value, data representing a cumulative amount spent during the time period, and data representing a spending-date, each respectively being assigned to a user performing an electronic procurement;

calculate a total value of items in a shopping cart created during the electronic procurement by the user;

compare a sum of the value of the cumulative amount spent and a value of the items in the shopping cart with the budget-value;

wherein, if the sum is less than or equal to the budget-value, then:

generate an authorization, and

update the value of the cumulative amount spent by the value of the items in the shopping cart; and

wherein, if the sum is greater than the budget-value, then:

    generate an indication indicating that the budget-value is exceeded.

37. (New) The article of claim 36, further comprising:

    at least one executable instruction causing the computer system to retrieve data from a first and a second database table.

38. (New) The article of claim 37, further comprising:

    at least one executable instruction causing the computer system to retrieve data from the first database table including at least one of a user identification, the budget-value, a currency of the budget-value, and a time period for the budget-value.

39. (New) The article of claim 37, further comprising:

    at least one executable instruction causing the computer system to retrieve data from the second database table including at least one of a user identification, the cumulative amount spent, a currency of the cumulative amount spent, and the spending-date.

40. (New) The article of claim 36, further comprising:

    at least one executable instruction causing the computer system to set the cumulative amount spent to an initial value, if a time period of a current date does not correspond to a time period of the spending-date.

41. (New) The article of claim 40, further comprising:

    at least one executable instruction causing the computer system to set a value of the spending-date to the current date, if the time period of the current date does not correspond to the time period of the spending-date.

42. (New) The article of claim 36, further comprising:

    at least one executable instruction causing the computer system to create one of a request to change a content of the shopping cart and a request to get further authorization.

43. (New) A system of generating an automatic authorization of a shopping cart created during an electronic procurement of an item depending on a value stored in a database table, the system comprising:

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an information retrieval means for getting data from the database table including data representing budget-value, time period for the budget-value, cumulative amount spent, and spending-date assigned to the user performing the electronic procurement; and

computing means for calculating the total value of items in the shopping cart, and for comparing the sum of the value of cumulative amount spent and the value of items in the shopping cart with the budget-value, and for generating the authorization and updating the value of cumulative amount spent by the value of items in the shopping cart if the sum lies within the budget-value, and for generating an indication indicating that the budget is exceeded.

44. (New) The system of claim 43, wherein the data is retrieved from a first and a second database table.

45. (New) The system of claim 44, wherein the data retrieved from the first database table includes at least one of a user identification, budget-value, currency of the budget-value, and time period for the budget-value.

46. (New) The system of claim 44, wherein the data retrieved from the second database table includes at least one of a user identification, cumulative amount spent, currency of the cumulative amount spent, and spending-date.

47. (New) The system of claim 43, further comprising:
an information storage means for setting the cumulative amount spent to an initial value, if the time period of the current date does not correspond to the time period of spending-date.

48. (New) The system of claim 47, wherein the information storage means sets the value of spending-date to the current date, if the time period of the current date does not correspond to the time period of the spending-date.

49. (New) The system of claim 43, wherein the item includes at least one of goods and services.

50. (New) The system of claim 43, wherein the indication includes one of a request for changing the content of the shopping cart and a request for further authorization.

51. (New) A system for generating an automated procurement authorization in an electronic shopping system, comprising:

networking means for allowing a user to access a server managing a shop;

display means for displaying representations of items available in the shop for selecting, each item having a value, and a shopping cart on a screen to the user;

selection means for allowing the user to select items to be purchased on the screen and to put the selected items into the shopping cart;

computing means for memorizing a budget-value assigned to the user and a first variable representing the cumulative amount spent in the user's previous procurement transactions, for updating the first variable by the value of the selected items in the shopping cart, and for comparing the first variable with the budget-value; and

approval means for generating the automated procurement authorization, if the first variable is smaller than the budget-value, and for generating a message on the screen to the user, if the first variable exceeds the budget-value.

52. (New) A method for generating an automated procurement authorization in an electronic shopping system wherein a client accesses an electronic shop through a computer network, comprising:

displaying representations of items available in the shop for selecting, each item having a value, and a shopping cart on a screen to the user;

selecting items to be purchased and putting the selected items into the shopping cart;

updating a first variable representing the cumulative amount spent in the user's previous procurement transactions by the value of the selected items in the shopping cart;

comparing a budget-value assigned to the client with the first variable, and for the first variable with the budget-value; and

approval means for generating the automated procurement authorization, if the first variable is smaller than the budget-value, and for generating a message on the screen to the user, if the first variable exceeds the budget-value.